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PROCEEDINGS AT THE SECOND ANNUAL BANQUET TO GARDENERS, FLORISTS AND NURSERYMEN.

GIVEN AT THE MERCANTILE CLUB, NOVEMBER 10TH, 1891.

Under direction of the Board of Trustees of the Garden, the second annual banquet to gardeners, florists and nurserymen, was given at the Mercantile Club, on the evening of November 10th, 1891, the Director of the Garden presiding. Seventy-five plates were laid, among the guests of the evening being :—

HON. N. J. COLMAN, Ex-Secretary of Agriculture.	MR. L. ARMSTRONG,
HON. C. C. BELL, of Booneville, Mo.	MR. J. H. BANNES,
PROFESSOR S. A. FORBES, State Entomologist of Illinois.	MR. E. BEAUMONT,
HON. CHARLES E. HAY, of Springfield, Ill.	MR. C. BRANCH,
MR. W. A. MANDA, of Short Hills, N. J.	MR. D. I. BUSHNELL,
MR. E. H. MICHEL, President, and	MR. C. D. COLMAN,
MR. EMILE SCHRAY, Secretary, of the Florists' Club of St. Louis.	MR. C. CONNON,
MR. A. NELSON, President of the Laclede County Horticultural Society.	MR. J. F. DICKMANN,
MR. E. A. RIEHL, President of the Southern Illi- nois Horticultural Society.	MR. F. J. FILLMORE,
MR. EDGAR SANDERS, of Chicago, Ill.	MR. H. HANFT,
MR. H. J. WEBBER, Assistant, Shaw School of Botany.	MR. H. HEGEL,
	MR. E. W. HICKS,
	MR. J. M. HUDSON,
	MR. D. JANNOPoulos,
	MR. J. M. JORDAN,
	MR. C. A. JUENGEL,
	MR. S. KEHRMANN, JR.,
	MR. J. KOENIG,
	MR. C. A. KUEHN,
	MR. J. W. KUNZ,
	MR. E. A. MICHEL,
	MR. C. W. MURTFELDT,
	MR. H. OPPERMAN,
	MR. F. W. OSTERTAG,
	MR. H. C. OSTERTAG,
	MR. ALFRED PLANT,
	MR. C. E. PRUNTY,
	MR. P. QUINN,
	MR. H. H. RIEMAN,

MR. CAREW SANDERS,	MR. A. D. CUNNINGHAM,
MR. C. C. SANDERS,	Secretary of the
MR. WM. SCHRAY,	Board of Trustees,
MR. J. STOCKE,	WILLIAM TRELEASE,
MR. J. STOCKE, JR.,	Director,
MR. R. TESSON,	A. S. HITCHCOCK, and
MR. GEORGE URQUHART,	EARL DOUGLASS;
MR. A. WALDBART,	Botanical Assistants,
MR. W. J. WELLHOUSE,	J. C. DUFFEY,
MR. J. F. WINDT,	Horticultural Assistant,
MR. E. WURST, and	JAMES GURNEY,
MR. W. C. YOUNG,	Head Gardener,
of St. Louis.	J. W. DUNFORD, JR.,
	Garden Assistant, and
CHANCELLOR W. S. CHAPLIN, and	THOMAS DOSS,
MR. D. F. KAIME,	of the Missouri
Trustees,	Botanical Garden.

After a short address of welcome, the Chairman proposed the toast of the evening,—to the memory of Henry Shaw,—to which Hon. Norman J. Colman responded in the following terms:—

Mr. Chairman:—While partaking of this bountiful repast, I have been thinking what was the object, the motive, or intention as you have designated it, of the late Mr. Shaw in providing for these annual reunions, for all time to come, so that those who are engaged in this profession a thousand years hence, if our institutions remain, will meet just as we are meeting at this time. I think that his motive was not to simply bring us together for the purpose of enjoying a rich repast, but that he had other and higher designs. It was not simply to perpetuate his memory, but to advance that noble cause which he had so much at heart. It is true that he knew that it was well for kindred spirits to meet, and he perhaps desired to establish that *esprit de corps* which should always exist among the members of a great profession, if we may call it such, and which, perhaps, is not existing in the force and in the strength that it ought to. Mr. Shaw undoubtedly thought that it was well to bring those engaged in these pursuits together,

that they might compare notes, consult with one another, and do what they might think best towards promoting that pursuit which he had so much at heart. And I think, if we will look to the life and history of Mr. Shaw we shall see that in all of his designs he was looking for the advancement of horticulture, and the refinement and elevation of the people.

In establishing Tower Grove Park he did a great work — a needed work at that time. I recollect well when we had scarcely a park in this city; and at the time when he first took steps towards the establishment of that park we really had but one, and that was the Lafayette Park of about thirty acres, in the southern part of our city. Numerous efforts had been made to establish a park system and to establish parks, and all of them met with failure. As long ago as the year 1854 I was a member of the Board of Aldermen, and there was a magnificent tract of land, west of the city — the Lindell estate, which some of my friends present will recollect, of several hundred acres, which could have been bought at between three and four hundred dollars an acre. Being a member of the Board I urged the passage of a bill for the purchase of that land, so near now to the very heart of our city, but the members of the City Council thought it was too far away, and I could not induce them to do it. And the City Council, up to the time that Mr. Shaw took the step towards establishing Tower Grove Park, was very backward, and in fact would do nothing towards establishing a park system. He gave his park to the public, and a sort of fever and inspiration, as it were, took possession of the people for the establishment of parks.

But it was not through the City Council, however, that our parks were obtained. Some of my older friends will recollect that we secured Forest Park, one of the largest and most magnificent in the country, from the County Court of St. Louis County, instead of the City Council, and all the bills had to be rendered to the County Court.

An act of the Legislature was passed by which two members of said Court were to act as commissioners, and two to be appointed on the part of the city, and the President of the County Court was to act as President of the Board; and the matter was conducted in that way.

The example which Mr. Shaw set in establishing Tower Grove Park led to the development of the park system in this city, and we have now a greater area of parks than any other city of the same population in the United States, if not in the world. There is not in America a larger park than Forest Park, unless it be Fairmount Park in Philadelphia; and what led to the establishment of that park was not especially the desire to have it as a park, but it was urged as a sanitary measure, to preserve in a healthful condition, in an uncontaminated state, the Schuylkill River which supplied the city of Philadelphia with water. So I think we owe to Henry Shaw a debt of gratitude for establishing a pattern, a model here, in Tower Grove Park, which led to the introduction of other parks in the city.

Likewise in establishing the Missouri Botanical Garden, he had a motive. He made there a sort of breathing place, as all parks and gardens are the lungs to a city, where the people can go and enjoy the pure country air, the songs of birds, the sight of beautiful flowers, the fine landscapes, which are everywhere presented to the view.

Mr. Shaw had an innate love for the beautiful in nature. He had been abroad. He had visited the beautiful Chatsworth Garden and the Kew Gardens and the best gardens in Europe, and it is said that he became inspired while visiting the Chatsworth Garden with the thought of establishing here the grand Missouri Botanical Garden, and Tower Grove Park, both of which have been so beneficial to the city. He was a native of England, and when he first went out to Tower Grove and erected his house he undoubtedly had in view simply the establishment of some such place as the country gentleman of England enjoys. But when he had obtained wealth and position, and when

he saw that he could leave here a monument which would endure forever, a monument which would be an ornament to the city and a blessing to its people, which would refine and elevate everybody who came in contact with it, he determined that that should be the work of his life; and that work has been most nobly done. Where can we find another such a man, with such a history, who has done so much for any city, aye, so much for any country, as Henry Shaw has done? What other city, what other state, what other nation has had a Henry Shaw, leaving so munificent a donation, leaving such a grand work for humanity? It is not simply the masculine members of the human family that enjoy it, though I know that all those of refined feelings do, but it is especially that other portion of the human family, our wives and our daughters, who will remember with gratitude and devotion the work which Henry Shaw has done for them.

Not only here in the city will his example be remembered, but by all those who visit the garden, from whatever state or nation they come. It will have a most telling and important effect throughout this whole Western country; because here is an example, a model, which many men — and I hope there may be hundreds and thousands of them — will pattern after in a limited manner, if not in greater degree. This example will be followed. It will have its influence for good. Our city does not begin to compare with many other cities in the ornamentation of private grounds and private residences. We can almost count upon the fingers of our hands the number of beautiful residences, the grounds around which have been properly laid out in landscape style. We may go to Cincinnati, to Cleveland, to Boston, to Philadelphia, to almost any other city, and find hundreds and thousands of residences with beautiful grounds about them, ornamented in the highest style of landscape gardening, but I am sorry to say they are not to be found here. I wish that I could talk to every house owner in the city of St. Louis to-night and urge upon him the

importance of following to some limited extent the example which Henry Shaw has set.

There is nothing that has a finer influence upon the family than to bring them in contact with trees, shrubs and flowers, and with everything that is beautiful and lovely in nature. There is an inborn love in man for flowers, for beautiful landscapes, for all objects of beauty; and where children are brought up within their influence, this part of their nature is developed and they are elevated by it and become better citizens.

Following Mr. Colman, the Chairman introduced Professor S. A. Forbes, State Entomologist of Illinois, who spoke as follows: —

I am used, before some audiences, and on some occasions, to speaking upon the subject of the relations of entomology to horticulture, but I confess that the situation here puzzles me. I should suppose that on an occasion like this entomology would be about the last thing that a horticulturist would care to hear about. I have a firm belief — a very well grounded suspicion, at any rate, — that if the science of entomology and the subject of that science could be swept out of existence together, you would be unanimously in favor of it.

And yet, as I look over these tables I see that after all there is another side to this question, which, perhaps, is not as common to our minds as the one that enforces itself by way of the cucumber beetle and other insects of that class; and this, in order to give me a little standing room here for the minute or two that I shall speak to you, I will call up. Has it occurred to you, as we look over the floral show upon these tables, that the very science of floriculture is due to insects? That is one of the commonplaces of modern science; that if there had been no insects, there would have been no flowers; that in fact, in a very great sense, an insect is the creator of a flower; that every flush of color upon the petal, and every driblet of honey, and

every particle of floral odor wafted on the wind, — that these are the simple invitations to insects to make their fertilizing visits to flowers, without which these flowers would never have been. So I think that we as horticulturists owe a certain respect to this much berated science. I have sometimes thought that it was a wonder that every horticulturist, upon whose mind this fact had been borne, was not an entomologist also from pure gratitude, if for nothing else.

But probably it is as an economic entomologist that I have been invited to attend this meeting; and it is very likely upon the other side of the question that you will expect me to say something. And I must confess, on behalf of the favorite objects of my official existence, that they are not all of this kind; that they are not all permanent aids to agriculture. Some of them do have a vexatious habit of reaping where they do not sow, and of levying a burdensome tax upon the plant, for which they make no return. We must acknowledge that. You will not perhaps expect an essay or an address upon the subject of economic entomology here. This is not the time or the place for it. And yet there is one general idea, which it seems to me is not entirely inappropriate to the purpose of this gathering, which I would like to illustrate by a simple point or two. If we scan the various measures of defense which, as agriculturists, we use against insects, I think we shall be pleased to notice that some of the most important of them are simply applications of the methods by which plants themselves have in the long course of evolution learned to defend themselves against their enemies. For example, when you fumigate your hot houses, what do you do but to apply everywhere, and bring to bear upon every plant in the conservatory, that device, that method of defense, that chemical principle, which a single plant has learned to elaborate in its own tissues as a defense against its enemies? When you sprinkle your rose bushes with hellebore, what do you except to provide these defense-

less plants with the defense which the hellebore has learned to manufacture as a means of defense against these enemies of its own foliage?

There is another application of the same idea which is illustrated by the very latest work of our entomological laboratories. As there is a class of insects which, as we all know, live entirely upon living vegetation, the botanists now say that there is a class of plants which, on the other hand, live entirely upon living insects. The plant world has, in short, learned to retort upon the insect world. And we are learning to use these natural enemies, these plant enemies of insects, for the defense of other plants. We have learned lately for example, that one of the most deadly and destructive of these may be readily cultivated in great quantities in as simple a thing as corn meal mush, if you only make your mush with soup instead of with water. How easy a thing it would be for a horticulturist to maintain a crop of these deadly agents, so that their spores might float everywhere and settle upon any insect that would be apt to injure the vegetation! These are all evidences of the fact, which is illustrated more amply than I shall be able to illustrate it to-night, that the greatest success in attempts to accomplish our purposes with respect to natural objects is to be attained by utilizing the methods and the system and the expedients of nature, and by a more general and a wider application of those methods.

Before I take my seat I desire to express, as an entomologist, my interest in what Henry Shaw has done, and in what those who are carrying out his will are doing here: not in behalf of entomology alone, but of horticulture and agriculture, because these sciences are so related to each other that whatever improves, advances, or encourages one, improves, advances and encourages the other also. Entomology is in some senses a subordinate science. In a practical way, it shines partly by its own light and partly by a reflected light; and you may be sure that we are much interested in the sources from which this light comes,

which can be reflected back upon horticulture and agriculture to make our science as useful as it is. Whatever gives floriculture or horticulture in any of its branches useful and valuable aid and service, likewise gives a stimulus to the entomological relations of that science. I have no idea that Professor Trelease or any of the gentlemen interested in this Garden have had entomological instruction in mind to-night, though they all see the necessity for it. Professor Trelease tells you he feels the necessity for the services of an entomologist from time to time to protect the plants and flowers which are growing in the Garden, and I would say that in time there will be connected, no doubt, an entomologist with the horticultural or floricultural enterprise.

Hon. Charles E. Hay, of Springfield, Ill., was then called upon, and made the following remarks upon orchid growing by amateurs, a matter in which he has had much experience and flattering success:—

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: As Mr. Trelease was making his introductory remarks, the thought came up to me of a time when I went to hear a temperance lecture. A gentleman who was an advocate of total abstinence was traveling with the finest specimen of a drunken tramp that was ever seen. Some one asked him why he carried that man around with him, and he said, “To show every one the awful results of drunkenness.” In my case, I presume I am the awful example of a man who might be called an amateur florist,—that is, one who has not been taught by others, but has simply taught himself. A number of years ago, I thought I would cultivate a few flowers, and I went to a practical business friend who had succeeded even better than I have since, and he told me that I might meet with many disappointments: that I would find no fish on the geraniums, although there are plenty of fish geraniums; that I would not find on the hubbard squashes any Mother Hubbard dresses, nor would I find any New York counts or blue points on the salsify. And

numerous other disappointments of that sort he said I would find, but, suffice it to say that, being eager, having all the eagerness of a young convert, I went to work to collect a few plants, and, later on, I collected a few orchids. And let me say that the first orchid I ever saw was a very solitary plant in a neighboring greenhouse. I did not know what it was. I simply saw on the label the name, and it was even wrongly named, as I learned afterwards. I thought I would buy a few orchids, and wrote to a friend of mine, who was a dealer, to order a dozen plants; but on the way to the post-office it occurred to me that a dozen might bankrupt me entirely. I did not know what they would cost, and I changed the letter before it went into the mail and asked the price first. I bought the dozen, however, and with that beginning I began the cultivation of orchids. To show that one as inexperienced as myself can succeed in keeping alive orchids, I will say that I think the majority of that dozen are to-day alive in my greenhouse. I had no greenhouse, strictly speaking, then,—nothing in the world but a little conservatory. But from the reading I did I concluded that I must have the requisite temperature for the hot-house orchids, and those that I had were ones adapted to medium temperature, and for the cooler temperature I subdivided that portion again. Later on, of course, I became a little more pretentious; and where then I had a dozen, I perhaps have now two hundred dozen.

Enthusiasts have said that there is a degree of intelligence in an orchid kindred to the intelligence that is in man. That as man is the noblest of the animal creation, endowed with the faculty of looking his Creator in the face and having an intellect to express his thoughts, the orchid, being the last created specimen of the floral kingdom, has some of those attributes. I do not say so myself, I am not so much of a crank as that, but there is something in the modern orchid corresponding to man. There are no traces of orchids found in the clay formations. No geologists

claim that they have found anywhere traces of them. They have found flowers, but no orchids. But I am not going to detain you in talking about the formation and origin of the orchid, or about its construction or reproduction, or anything technical. To my notion, having succeeded comparatively well myself, it is a very strange thing that instead of there being one thousand orchid growers in the United States there are not ten thousand. Because, after one has once acquired a knowledge of the conditions surrounding them in their native habitat, the rest is the simplest thing in the world. It is nothing in the world but common sense. To illustrate what I mean, in St. Louis, the rainfall is, perhaps, 50 inches; you must multiply that twelve times to get the necessary amount of moisture for an orchid. In its native habitat, in Burmah, the rainfall, I understand, is about 600 inches a year. The plants simply anchor themselves to something and live upon the atmosphere and the moisture. It is absolutely necessary to their health and well being that it must be clean moisture. They are very fastidious, and not only must they have air, but it must be pure air, and therefore a hot house would have to be so constructed as to afford the requisite degree of moisture and the proper atmosphere or ventilation. For example, an ordinary green house is better adapted in my judgment to the cultivation of the orchid than these large frame hot houses with curvilinear roofs. A house 16 feet wide, with a low roof, not over 12 feet high, the floors of earth, with walks cemented, and, if possible, an open tank in the center, with the shelving covered with either shingles or coarse gravel or broken cinders with the ashes all sifted out of them, is the best for the purpose. The ventilation should be well taken care of, because, as I have said, they are particular about the air they breathe.

There are over six thousand varieties known to collectors, and a third of that number, I believe, could be grown by an ordinary person who loves the plants and is willing

to devote a little attention to them. There is no potting to be done. Any lady can take care of them, and I know of no flower in bloom that, to use the English expression of a French friend, is so thoroughly fetching as the well grown orchid. So far as I am concerned, I do not know of any flower that I would rather devote myself entirely to than the orchid, and, for the reason, as Mr. Trelease has so well said, that I am absolutely fond of them. It does seem to me that when I am in the presence of an orchid I am in the presence of a plant that, as the old Irishman said, "has sense!"

In response to a call from the Chair, Mr. Edgar Sanders, of Chicago, then spoke of the value of horticultural libraries, presenting statistics of the principal collections of the kind existing in this country, and commending the effort of the Garden to gradually bring together as full a reference library in horticulture as possible. On the conclusion of his remarks, Mr. James Gurney, for many years Head Gardener at the Botanical Garden, was called upon, and spoke briefly of the aims and plans of Mr. Shaw as he knew them. Mr. W. A. Manda, of Short Hills, New Jersey, an accomplished gardener, and one through whom many plants have been introduced into the country during the past few years, then spoke as follows:—

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen:—I feel greatly honored to be called upon for a few remarks, although I must say that I feel rather bashful, after hearing such eloquent speeches; but I respond knowing that every person interested in horticulture is willing at all times to overlook a diffident manner in one who follows that pursuit. In the few short years I have lived in this country I have seen the most remarkable progress in horticulture that it is possible to imagine. Only nineteen years ago there were very few private gardens, and there were hardly any exhibitions outside of Boston or Philadelphia, and those would not now be ranked as third class exhibitions. Now what?

In the past and present weeks there are being held and have been held throughout the country nearly fifty Chrysanthemum shows, some of which are of an extent calculated to make the exhibitions of the old country seem small and insignificant. In fact, there are Chrysanthemums grown in this country that have never been seen in Europe, and the same may be said of roses, or almost any other flower. The hard working and intelligent American, either native or adopted, has given his whole heart to his work. Horticulture is advancing, and enterprise is everywhere. There are to be sure establishments where plants are simply manufactured, so to speak, instead of grown:—just so many hundred thousand sent out annually. But we must look for this progress chiefly to those others who raise new varieties, either from the seed or by means of better methods, or to those who introduce new and unknown plants from the tropics, rather than to those who are merely in the profession for the money there may be in it. I think there is more credit in either raising a new and superior variety of an already existing kind, or introducing a new and desirable plant from the tropics — there is more credit to a man from that one plant than there is in growing a million plants annually of an established variety.

I think, gentlemen, that this kind of horticulture should be more encouraged; and I am pleased to see that amongst the premiums offered at your coming St. Louis exhibition, is one given by the Trustees of the Garden founded by Mr. Shaw, for encouraging such work. It is only by being wholly interested in plants, and not in the dollars and cents that may be in them, that we can interest others. I do not see why every florist should not have a few choice plants that he prizes so much that money could not buy them from him. Such plants he could improve and raise new varieties of, and thereby interest amateurs far more than by only saying of his plants, “Well, so much a thousand, or so much a hundred!” — a few plants such as old Mr. Menand had, when he said to Mr. Smith, the Curator of the Botanical

Gardens at Washington, "The United States has not money enough to buy that plant." How many men will you find of that kind? I only know two. Mr. Hovey, who is resting peacefully now, and this Mr. Menand. Between those gentlemen, I believe, is to be divided the credit of starting nearly all the collections we know at present. I hope, gentlemen, that by doing this kind of work, we will be able to interest outsiders in our work, and if we do not get them quite as thoroughly interested as the late Mr. Shaw, that at any rate they will do in a smaller way what that noble gentleman did so well and so completely for horticulture and for the benefit and betterment of mankind. What he has provided in his will is that the good he was doing while he was living shall last and be a lasting good as well as an enduring monument to himself.

Mr. Manda was followed by Mr. W. S. Chaplin, Chancellor of Washington University, who spoke as follows:—

A few minutes ago I asked the Chairman of the evening how long I could speak, or, rather, how long I should speak, and he gave me to understand that as I was the last speaker I could speak till daylight. I do not intend, however, to inflict on you more than a few minutes' talk. I wish to say to you that, when considering whether I should come to Washington University or not I, of course, made many investigations, and in these investigations I was sorry to find that St. Louis was almost an unknown city in the part of the country that I come from. I wish to suggest right here that whether it is on account of the innate modesty of the people of this city, or whether it is because this city has not borrowed a great deal of money from the East, or whatever the reason may be, St. Louis is less known, say in New England, than any other great city of the west. That I drop just as I am passing. One of the things that I noticed in this investigation which I spoke of was, of course, the Shaw bequests, and among them I noticed a peculiar provision, one which I believe has not

been established in any other place in this country,—namely, that a dinner should be given to gentlemen interested in horticulture. Of course, being a yankee—at that time—being a yankee at that time, I began to ask why this was so. Why did Mr. Shaw make any such provision? The first reason, of course, was that Mr. Shaw wished to get together a number of gentlemen who would enjoy a good dinner. Certainly, so far, the enjoyment has been complete. I might have stopped there, and said that out of his kind heart he had made this provision for your pleasure. But, looking it over, I saw that Mr. Shaw was a very far-sighted man and that he had really a deep strong reason for founding—for establishing this feast. Mr. Shaw must have seen what every scientific man sees,—that for the advancement of knowledge there is necessary a strong, active co-operation between the man who is investigating and the man who is applying. I know that practical men have something this idea of an investigator,—that he is rather a dried up specimen of humanity, much given to books, living on very little food, dying late in life because he forgets to die sooner. Scientific men have a somewhat similar idea of practical men—I mean to say, a similarly false idea. They have an idea that the practical man cares nothing for the truth. Now both of those ideas are radically wrong. After you work down into men's reason for laboring in any way you find that every honest man is not working for money, he is not working for knowledge, alone; but he is working, if he be an honest man, to serve his fellow men. The scientific man has as much a right to exist as the practical man; and the practical man must exist in order that anybody may exist. Mr. Shaw saw this fact, and I believe that he established this dinner that these two classes of men might be brought together. He wisely arranged that the Director of the Botanical Garden should preside at this feast. If he had done nothing more, gentlemen, than to bring you together so that you might meet with a gentleman of

Professor Trelease's eminence in botany, he would have had a worthy object.

Now this is what I wish to plead for: that you may give — that you all give — your assistance in keeping up the proper relation between the men who make the research and the men who apply the facts that are discovered. You know it has been said that no discovery is complete until it has been applied. The scientific men can assist you, you can assist the scientific men.

I wish before I close, — I know it is not morning yet, but morning will come by and bye, — I wish before I close to caution you in one respect. It is a tendency everywhere when some one man has stepped forward and done a great thing, made a great gift for any kind of a purpose, for all the rest of us to hang back and give him all the credit and do none of the work ourselves. I think there is a tendency here, since you are all human I think there may be a tendency here, for you to consider that Mr. Shaw has done all that botany needs. Let me say to you that if Mr. Shaw's benefaction were ten times as large as it is every dollar of it might be worthily expended in the study of botany, in the collection of herbariums, in the establishment of means of widening human knowledge. It is, then, a worthy thing that Mr. Shaw has done. It will be a worthy thing in you if you support his ideas and help to broaden them and extend them to other men. I feel that it was a wise thing in him also to establish this garden right here in St. Louis. You have here everything favorable for the extension of botanical knowledge. You are centrally placed in the United States, you have a climate almost unequalled, you have a soil which seems to be inexhaustible to a man who has just come from that stony gift of God called New England. You have markets. Why, a year or two ago, when I was in Mexico, the one thing I found that looked like home was apples from St. Louis. The man who had those apples made a very bad speculation. The fact was, the people down in Mexico were not educated up to eating apples; but

I see there is a commission down there now from this city, and if you wished to exemplify the practical operation of eating apples I should be very glad to present myself as a terrible example of the effect of eating them. You have, then, a bountiful soil; you have all ranges of climate (I have noticed that within the last few days), in fact, you have everything that can assist you, and it seems to me that you may well expect the Henry Shaw Gardens to become what they fairly promise to become, that is, the greatest botanical gardens in the United States.

In conclusion, the Chairman said: We have with us this evening gentlemen who know how to grow apples and who know how to market apples; who know how to grow seeds and who know how to market seeds; who know how to grow roses, and how to market them; and so of the various other floral and agricultural products. But the hour is growing late, and I do not feel that it would be a pleasure to those gentlemen, and possibly not to all of you, since some of you have to go a considerable distance before reaching home, if I were to call on other speakers this evening. I have received in connection with the invitations for this dinner numerous appreciative letters, responses from prominent men all over the country, a number of whom had expected to be with us and have wired me even to-day that at the last moment they found they could not come:—the chief of the Forestry Bureau of the Department of Agriculture, the Horticultural Chief of the World's Fair in Chicago, the Secretary of our State Horticultural Society, the Secretary of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, who has been so highly spoken of this evening, and other gentlemen equally distinguished, whom we all wished to meet here and whom we hope to meet some time. These letters would interest you, if there were time to present them properly; but I feel that we have detained you longer than we should this evening, and so I thank you for coming and once more bid you welcome to the Missouri Botanical Garden and to these banquets which Mr. Shaw has provided.